(b) if so, what is the present population of rhinos in Kaziranga and how it compares with their number of 1970; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to prevent poaching, which is now being done through electrocution by spreading a net of live wires in the grass ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) and (b) In spite of poaching remaining a serious threat to the Indian rhino, its population has been reported to be rising. In the Kaziranga National Park, the population of rhinos is reported to have risen from 658 in 1972 to 1250 in 1990.

(c) Steps taken to prevent poaching in the Kaziranga National Park include :

(1) The rhino is included in Schedule I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, thus giving it maximum possible legal protection. There is a total ban on trade in its horn and other products.

(2) Under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES), of which India is a signatory, there is a ban on international trade in rhino horns.

(3) Government of India has been extending assistance to the Government of Assam under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Conservation of rhinos in Assam' to strengthen measures to protect the rhino and to conserve and develop all its habitats in Assam, including the Kaziranga National Park.

(4) Anti poaching measures have been intensified in the Park through the deployment of protection staff equipped with arms, vehicles, boats and wireless sets.

(5) Patrolling of the Park by the anti-poaching staff both during day and night has been stepped up.

(6) A system of rewards and incentives to obtain intelligence about the movement of poachers has been introduced.

(7) Measures to protect the rhinos from floods, when they become vulnerable to poaching, have been taken.

Opening of C.G.H.S. dispensaries

222. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to increase the number of Ayurvedic and Homoeopathic dispensaries under C.G.H.S. alongwith Allopathic dispensaries in Delhi and rest of the country;

(b) if so, the break-up of dispensaries opened under three systems of medicines in Delhi and rest of the country during the years 1990 and 1991, location-wise;

(c) whether there is any deviation from the decision taken in opening these dispensaries ; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and future plans of Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of C.G.H.S. dispensaries opened during the 1990 and 1991 are given in the Statement enclosed. (*See* below)

(c) No, Sir.

(d) There is a proposal to start more dispensaries under various systems of Medicines subject to availability of funds. The 8th Plan outlay is yet to be approved by the Planning Commission.

Statement

Name of System of Medicine	Year			
	1990		1991	
	Delhi	Outside Delhi	Delhi	Outside Delhi
1. Allopathy . .	3	Hyderabad 1 (Sub-dispensar)	1	Jabalpur 1
2. Ayurvedic . .	..	..	..	..
3. Homoeopathy . .	..	..	..	..